

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01
EB-08 COME-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 L-03 H-01 /070 W
-----160247Z 055783 /67

R 160010Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 353
USMISSION GENEVA

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DEPT FOR BOURNE (WHITE HOUSE), BENSINGER (DEA) AND
LUERS (ARA) GENEVA FOR FALCO

EO 11652 : N/A

TAGS : SNAR MX

SUBJ : PROPOSED VISIT OF SENIOR USG NARCOTICS OFFICIALS

REF : DUGSTAD-MCLAUGHLIN TELCON FEB 15

1. MISSION UNDERSTANDS FROM REFTELCON THAT BOURNE, BENSINGER, AND FALCO ARE CONSIDERING VISIT TO MEXICO TO DISCUSS NARCOTICS PROGRAMS WITH MISSION AND GOM OFFICIALS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO VISIT AND, FOR REASONS GIVEN BELOW, SUGGEST LATTER PART OF APRIL AS MOST APPROPRIATE TIME.

2. SENIOR MEXICAN OFFICIALS, IN OFFICE ONLY SINCE DECEMBER ONE, ARE MAKING SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO GET NARCOTICS PROGRAM RUNNING EFFECTIVELY. THEY HAVE, AS MISSION REPORTING INDICATES, MADE SIGNIFICANT STRIDES IN THE ERADICATION EFFORT AND ARE BEGINNING, WITH CONSTANT PRODDING FROM NARCOTICS ATTACHE, TO ORGANIZE THEMSELVES FOR OTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES. BOTH OF THESE TASKS REQUIRE CONSTANT MANAGEMENT ATTENTION. BY WAITING UNTIL THE INTENSIFIED PORTION OF

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THE ERADICATION CAMPAIGN WINDS DOWN IN MID-APRIL, WE WOULD PERMIT THE MEXICANS TO EDUCATE THEMSELVES ON THE TASKS THEY FACE AND ACQUIRE SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE FOR IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS ON PROGRAM OPERATION. DISCUSSIONS COULD THEN CONCENTRATE ON PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION METHODS OVER THE NEXT SIX YEARS OF THE LOPEZA PORTILLO ADMINISTRATION.

3. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT VISITORS BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS FOLLOWING ISSUES IN SOME DETAIL. THEY HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN LOCAL PRESS AND MEXICAN OFFICIALS CAN BE EXPECTED TO ATTEMPT TO ELICIT INSIGHTS FROM VISITORS.

(A) MARIJUANA: MEXICO HAS NEVER BEEN COMFORTABLE WITH MOVE TO DECRIMINALIZE MARIJUANA POSSESSION BY STATES. RECENT PRESS REPORTS INDICATE INCREASED US INTEREST, INCLUDING PROPOSED LEGISLATION, NOT ONLY TO DECRIMINALIZE POSSESSION AT FEDERAL LEVEL, BUT TO DECRIMINALIZE PERSONAL CULTIVATION AS WELL. MEXICAN PENALTIES FOR BOTH POSSESSION (EVEN OF SMALL AMOUNTS) AND CULTIVATION ARE VERY SEVERE, AND MEXICO CONSIDERS MARIJUANA A PRESENT DANGER TO ITS SOCIETY, WHILE IT VIEWS HEROIN AS A NEWLY-EMERGING, BUT NOT YET SERIOUS THREAT. WE RECOMMEND THAT VISITORS PREPARE TO ADDRESS THIS DIVERGENCE IN PRIORITIES.

(B) DRUG ENFORCEMENT: MEXICAN OFFICIALS WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY SEEK ANALYSIS OF USG INTENTIONS ON DRUG ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION, PARTICULARLY WIDELY-PUBLISHED REPORTS OF POSSIBLE DEA-FBI MERGER. THEY CAN BE EXPECTED TO ASK WHAT OPERATIONAL DIFFERENCES SUCH CHANGES WOULD INVOLVE AND HOW CURRENT DEA-MFJP COOPERATION WOULD BE AFFECTED.

(C) LONG-TERM US NARCOTICS POLICY: WHILE MEXICAN OFFICIALS UNDERSTAND THAT USG REMAINS COMMITTED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON DRUG ABUSE, THEY WILL ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE FROM VISITORS THE DEGREE TO WHICH THEY CAN EXPECT CONTINUED MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR NARCOTICS OVER THE NEXT SIX YEARS.

THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MEXICO01885
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770054-0577
Format: TEL
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770236/aaaabfyte.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 5feea1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: PROPOSED VISIT OF SENIOR USG NARCOTICS OFFICIALS
TAGS: SNAR, OTRA, MX, US, (BOURNE), (BENSINGER), (FALCO)
To: STATE GENEVA
Type: TE
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